

## **Water District 29D Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, May 13, 2021**

**Pocatello City Council Chambers**

Committee Attendees: Rich Diehl, Dennis Hill, Jeromy Stanger, Hal Armstrong

Treasurer/Secretary - Dianna Burden

IDWR – Steve Visosky, Director Spackman and Blake Jordan Other Attendees – 17

Meeting Called to order by: Chairman Diehl at 7 p.m.

Minutes of February 8, 2021: Dennis Hill made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Jeromy Stanger seconded the motion and all in favor.

Watermaster Resignation: Randy Smith, Watermaster Elect, resigned on May 7, 2021. Chairman Diehl discussed the options of appointing a Watermaster or requesting a special meeting to elect a Watermaster. Rich Diehl made a motion that the Advisory Committee appoint Kristin Evans as Watermaster. Hal Armstrong seconded the motion all advisory committee members present voted in favor. Kristin Evans was appointed, by the Advisory Committee as Watermaster.

Basin 29 administration: Chairman Diehl asked Director Spackman for an update. Director Spackman gave some background information and said “it is first in time, first in right”. He explained that statutory law required the Director to deliver water to senior users. He explained that SWC is currently using water from storage and junior water users, in District 29D and 29H, are getting water delivered and that is why they made the call.

Question – Who sets the priority dates for curtailment. Director Spackman explained the natural flow of the river is measured and the priority dates are set by the natural flow and can change daily depending on the natural flow.

Randy Smith asked if ground water users were part of this curtailment or only surface water? Director Spackman said that ground water has a different legal structure and process. At this time IDWR is not administering ground water. Director Spackman’s hope was to bring everyone into administration before a call, but that did not happen. Ground and surface water should be managed conjunctively; however, he is not sure of the timing of the administration.

Hal Armstrong discussed his website and gave the address: district29d.com.

Dennis Hill discussed leasing water: options include Supply Bank, private lease and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Water Resource and Gail brought applications.

Steve Visosky said there 29D has 358 rights with 73 senior rights (per 1900).

Ralph Wheatly asked if there was a credit if he could measure the amount of water entering and measure the amount leaving his land. Director Spackman you must put your water to beneficial use, So, you can use or capture water on your land, but once it leaves there you have no beneficial use. No credits are available.

The advisory committee put together delegates to work with 29H and meet with SWC. The delegates are: Dennis Hill, Jeromy Stanger, Hal Armstrong and Jim Guthrie Sr.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Dianna Burden – Meeting Secretary